STAR WARS™

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56

LUKE SKYWALKER'S LANDSPEEDER

Moisture farmer's desert runabout

Musician Max Rebo

Tatooine's Jundland Wastes

DeAGOSTINI

LUCAS BOOKS

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STAR WARS

The young Luke Skywalker had to push his Uncle Owen pretty hard to finally convince him to lay out the credits for a beaten up old SoroSuub X-34 landspeeder. It is to Luke's credit that, even then, his engineering skills were good enough to keep the speeder running in the harsh conditions of the Tatooine deserts.

"LOOK, THERE'S A DROID ON THE SCANNER. DEAD AHEAD. MIGHT BE OUR LITTLE R2 UNIT. HIT THE ACCELERATOR!"

LUKE SKYWALKER

THE X-34 LANDSPEEDER

NO-FRILLS RUNABOUT

Though never more than functional, the SoroSuub X-34 landspeeder was a common sight throughout the galaxy. As simple a landspeeder as could ever be, it was fast, reliable, and easy to maintain. As a result, the X-34 speeders were still around centuries after their more complex cousins had been scrapped.

The SoroSuub Corporation of Sullust manufactured all kinds of luxury vehicles and vessels, and a fair number of military craft, too. The X-34 landspeeder, however, was neither luxurious, nor did it have offensive potential. It was a cheap, entry-level landspeeder with no fancy extras. Retailing at around 10,000 credits for a new model, an X-34 depreciated very quickly once the vehicle left the dealer's lot. Secondhand models in good condition usually sold on for between 2000 and 3000 credits. Around the time of the Battle of Yavin, the used X-34 market took a big hit when SoroSuub released the XP-38 speeder – a vastly better looking, better-equipped model that cost only 2000 credits more than the elderly X-34. However, owners found that the original XP-38 couldn't handle rough terrain the way the tougher X-34 could, so the secondhand market stabilised after a few years.

Basic At Best

The X-34 was a simple vehicle. It had a repulsorlift engine, and a basic one at that, with a flight ceiling of no more than a metre. Three rear-mounted turbine engines propelled the vehicle forward at up to 250 km/h, though talented speeder jockeys could coax a maximum speed of some 300 km/h from the hardy turbines. The driver used a simple steering wheel to manoeuvre, and foot pedals to get the speeder to start and stop. Holographic displays showed data from the simple ground scanners and navigational computer. This latter device could be configured to detect life forms, droids, vehicles, and other potential navigational hazards.

SoroSuub offered the X-34 with the option of a hardtop or an open cockpit with retractable duraplex windshield. The landspeeder had very limited storage, with enough room for only basic tools and personal items in the small space behind the only two seats. To allow for the transport of cargo, the X-34 had magnetic clamps built into the bodywork behind the seats, and these could be used to secure small containers or even droids. The only concession that was made to provide some comfort for the occupants were the lightly padded seats and the repulsor counterbalances, which went some way to smoothing the ride over uneven terrain. However, the light, unarmoured but hardy X-34 was able to handle the kinds of tough conditions to be found on the frontiers of the galaxy. Inexpensive to buy and maintain, the speeders remained in use, if never exactly hugely popular, for many centuries – so much so that many speeder jocks have fond memories of their first time behind the wheel of an old '34.

LUKE SKYWALKER'S X-34

FAITHFUL SERVICE

Like many of his friends, the young Luke Skywalker wanted a speeder of his own. Though he dressed up his requests with tales of how the craft would benefit his work on the farm, his Uncle Owen wasn't convinced.

Ultimately, it was Luke's Aunt Beru who, yet again, played peacemaker between her husband and their young nephew. Luke yearned for freedom from the drudgery of farm life, and felt that having a landspeeder of his own would give him a little of that. Eventually, even Owen had to admit that the engineering skills which Luke was forced to pick up in maintaining the speeder came in very handy. However, choosing a suitable landspeeder was never going to be easy.

Speeder Hutt

Around the time that Luke and Beru finally convinced Owen Lars to buy his nephew a speeder, Jabba the Hutt launched a 'legitimate' used-speeder business in Anchorhead. Though Luke was dazzled by the bright lights, slick salesbeings and ranks of nearly-new vehicles, Owen was harder to convince. Despite his nephew's protests, Lars ushered the boy away. Once out of earshot, he

pointed out to Luke that every speeder on the lot had had its ID tags filed, burned or blasted off. All were stolen. Eventually, Owen sourced a beat-up, clapped-out old X-34 landspeeder for 2400 credits. Initially crestfallen, Luke went to work on it with a vengeance spurred on by the mockery of some of his friends.

Faithful Friend

Luke's landspeeder, while never treated with the same pride and joy he lavished on his T-16 skyhopper, served him well over the years. It survived a great deal, including being mauled by Tusken Raiders. Ultimately, its sale to Wioslea of Spaceport Speeders in Mos Eisley for 2000 credits allowed Luke and Obi-Wan Kenobi to charter Han Solo's *Millennium Falcon* in which to leave Tatooine.

"You'll have to sell your speeder."
"That's okay. I'm never coming back to this planet again."

Obi-Wan Kenobi and Luke Skywalker

C-3PO PROTOCOL DROID

THANK THE MAKER

Built by Cybot Galactica on Affa, a 3PO-series protocol droid somehow ended up in a dismembered state in Mos Espa on Tatooine. C-3PO had no memory of this time, but news of these early hardships would not have surprised him – he was, he considered, made to suffer.

Anakin Skywalker was a slave owned by a small-time junk dealer called Watto. The badly mauled protocol droid chassis and head were part of a shipment of salvage Watto had bought that Anakin was to sort through. He didn't tell Watto about the 80 year-old droid, somehow knowing that it was up to him to salvage and rebuild the old 3PO unit. Smuggling the parts home bit by bit, scavenging other components from Watto's haphazard supplies, young Skywalker painstakingly built C-3PO to help his mother, Shmi. The result was a quirky, slightly unsteady protocol droid complete but for the expensive covering panels.

Left Behind

Despite the youngster's friend, Kitster, wondering why Anakin would want a protocol droid, C-3PO's ability with languages was useful in dealing with Jawa traders and other merchants. In this respect alone, the droid handsomely repaid Anakin's time. However, before Anakin could finish 3PO a fateful meeting took place at Watto's shop when Jedi Master Qui-Gon Jinn went there looking for parts for his ship. Soon after, C-3PO met astromech droid R2-D2. The two spoke at length while their masters dealt with weightier matters, with R2's stories convincing 3PO that his quiet life was preferable to one of adventure and space travel.

Unfortunately, adventure caught up with 3PO, separating him from Anakin whom Qui-Gon managed to free. Left with Shmi on Tatooine, 3PO was assured by Anakin that he'd make sure his mother didn't sell him. Two years later, Shmi was able to find coverings for the droid so the sands of Tatooine wouldn't affect him so badly. Three years after that, Shmi married Cliegg Lars and moved in to the moisture farm he ran, taking 3PO with her. Unfortunately, there was to be no lasting quiet life for 3PO or Shmi.

PROFILE

C-3PO

Homeworld
Affa/Tatooine

Model
Protocol droid

Height
1.67 metres

Affiliation
Various, including Skywalker Family, Rebel Alliance, New Republic

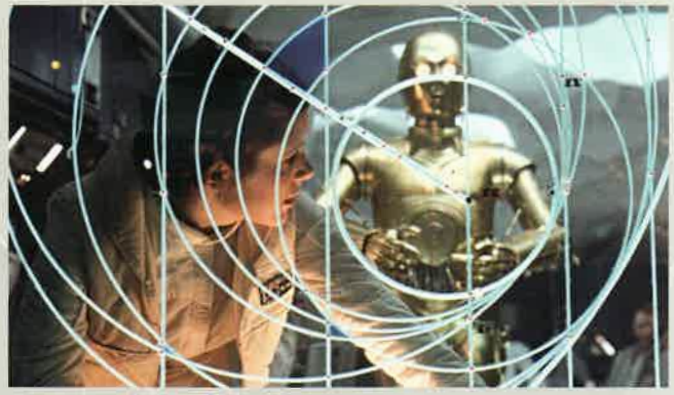
"I can assure you they will never get me onto one of those dreadful starships!"

C-3PO

Many Masters

Ten years after Anakin left Tatooine, he was reunited with C-3PO. Visions of his mother brought him back, though too late to save her. When Anakin left Tatooine a second time, he took 3PO. For the first time, C-3PO travelled together with R2-D2; the astromech belonged to Padmé Amidala, with whom Anakin was travelling. The group journeyed to Geonosis where 3PO suffered many indignities, even having his head removed and welded to a battle droid, while his body was fitted with the battle droid's head. As a result, C-3PO was a reluctant participant in the first battle of the Clone Wars.

Gifted to Padmé by Anakin, and given glittering golden coverings as befitted his new station, 3PO was witness to the horrors of the Clone Wars. This culminated in his being on Mustafar when Anakin, now Darth Vader, mortally injured the pregnant Padmé. She died later, after giving birth to twins, Luke and Leia, who were spirited away. Luke went to Tatooine, while Leia was given to Senator Bail Organa and his wife. 3PO and R2 also joined the House of Organa, the royal family of Alderaan, serving on the consular



Did you know...?

After being lost by the *Tantive IV*, 3PO was in a speeder race against Boba Fett, took part in the Roon Colonial Games, was mistaken for notorious assassin droid C-3PX, and led a droid revolution against Boonda the Hutt. Joining the Rebel Alliance must have felt like a holiday...

ship *Tantive IV*. It was at the commencement of this service that 3PO's mind was wiped – a precautionary measure to protect Luke and Leia. Though registered as part of the droid crew of the *Tantive IV* for 19 years, R2-D2 and C-3PO spent a considerable part of that time out in the greater galaxy.

Full Circle

A badly timed pirate attack interrupted an escape pod test drill, stranding 3PO and R2. Though Bail Organa sought them out by all means at his disposal, it was a number of years before they were recovered. During this time, the droids passed through the hands of many owners, and had many adventures. Back aboard the *Tantive IV*, it was not long before Princess Leia Organa's activities on behalf of the Rebel Alliance brought severe Imperial repercussions. Fleeing the consular ship with R2, 3PO found himself back on Tatooine and, after being captured by Jawas, sold into the ownership of Luke Skywalker – Padmé and Anakin's son.

"With all we've been through, sometimes I'm amazed we're in as good condition as we are, what with the Rebellion and all."

C-3PO

SOROSUUB V-35 *COURIER*

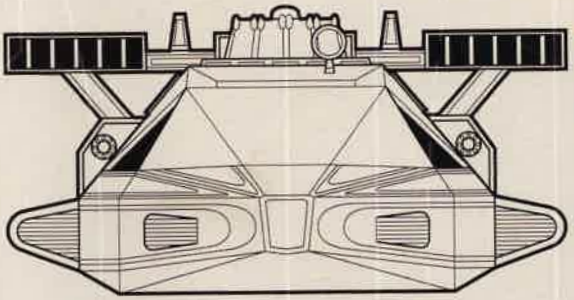
PRACTICAL TRANSPORT

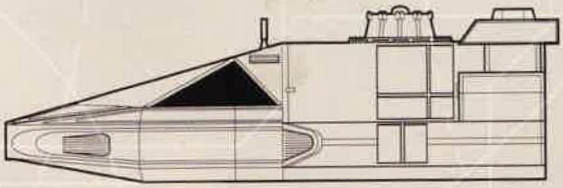
One of the main arguments against a young Luke Skywalker being granted his own speeder was that the Lars family already had a perfectly functional family landspeeder – an ancient SoroSuub V-35 that Luke would not have been seen dead in driving to meet his friends.

If one word could sum up the reason why Luke disliked his aunt and uncle's family speeder, it was that the vehicle was so "practical", a word that had featured heavily in the advertising for the speeder when it was launched many, many decades before. The three-seater V-35's entry-level price of 6500 to 8000 credits represented a practical amount for the family on a tight budget. Its flight ceiling of 0.5m was a practical height to deal with most terrains, even on a planet such as Tatooine. The solidly built *Courier's* maximum velocity of just over 100kph was a safe and practical speed. It had a relatively large and practical space for luggage, was cheap and practical to maintain, and was practically the dullest speeder in the galaxy – so far as Luke was concerned.

Could Be Better

The V-35 didn't have a completely dull history, however. Obi-Wan Kenobi, while still the Padawan of Qui-Gon Jinn, had used one during a mission to Ord Mantell. The Royal Naboo Security Forces who had guarded Luke's mother on her home planet used V-35s for patrol duties, though their craft were heavily modified. The speeder lent itself to modification. The basic model had a large repulsorlift engine which, when removed, left a lot of room for a better power unit – a more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly one in the case of the Naboo. It was a similar story with the three rectangular turbines mounted on the rear of the vehicle to provide thrust. The angular bodywork could be replaced with armour plating, and the scanner scope that projected out of the top of the vehicle made it easy to wire-in a more advanced sensor package. The best V-35s were almost unrecognisable from the original models.





V-35 *Courier* PROFILE

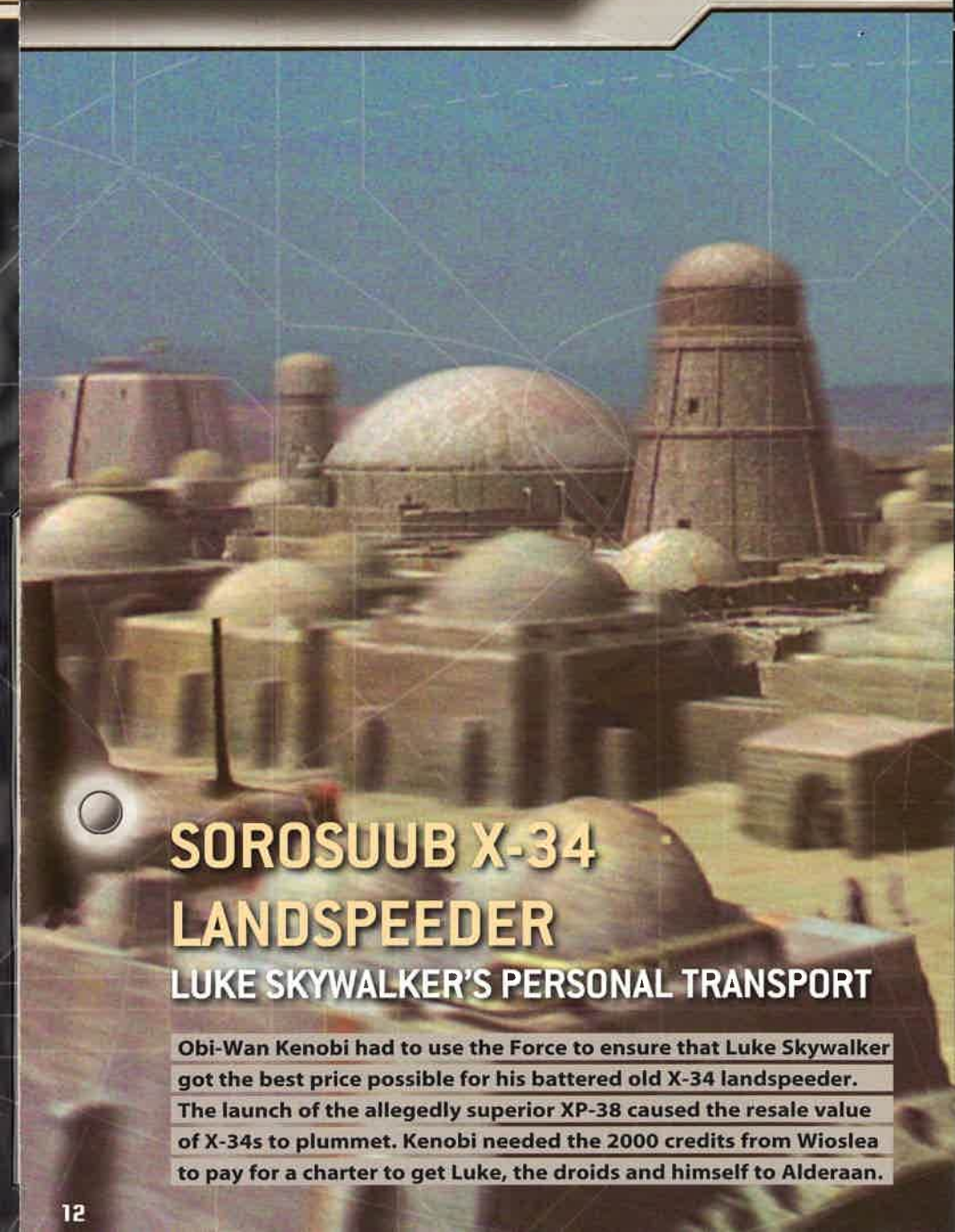
Type
Landspeeder

Manufacturer
SoroSuub

Length
3.8 metres

Maximum Speed
105km/h to 120km/h

Occupants
1x driver, 2x passengers



SOROSUUB X-34 LANDSPEEDER

LUKE SKYWALKER'S PERSONAL TRANSPORT

Obi-Wan Kenobi had to use the Force to ensure that Luke Skywalker got the best price possible for his battered old X-34 landspeeder. The launch of the allegedly superior XP-38 caused the resale value of X-34s to plummet. Kenobi needed the 2000 credits from Wioslea to pay for a charter to get Luke, the droids and himself to Alderaan.

Turbo engi

X-34 LANDSPEEDER

Type
Civilian repulsorlift landspeeder

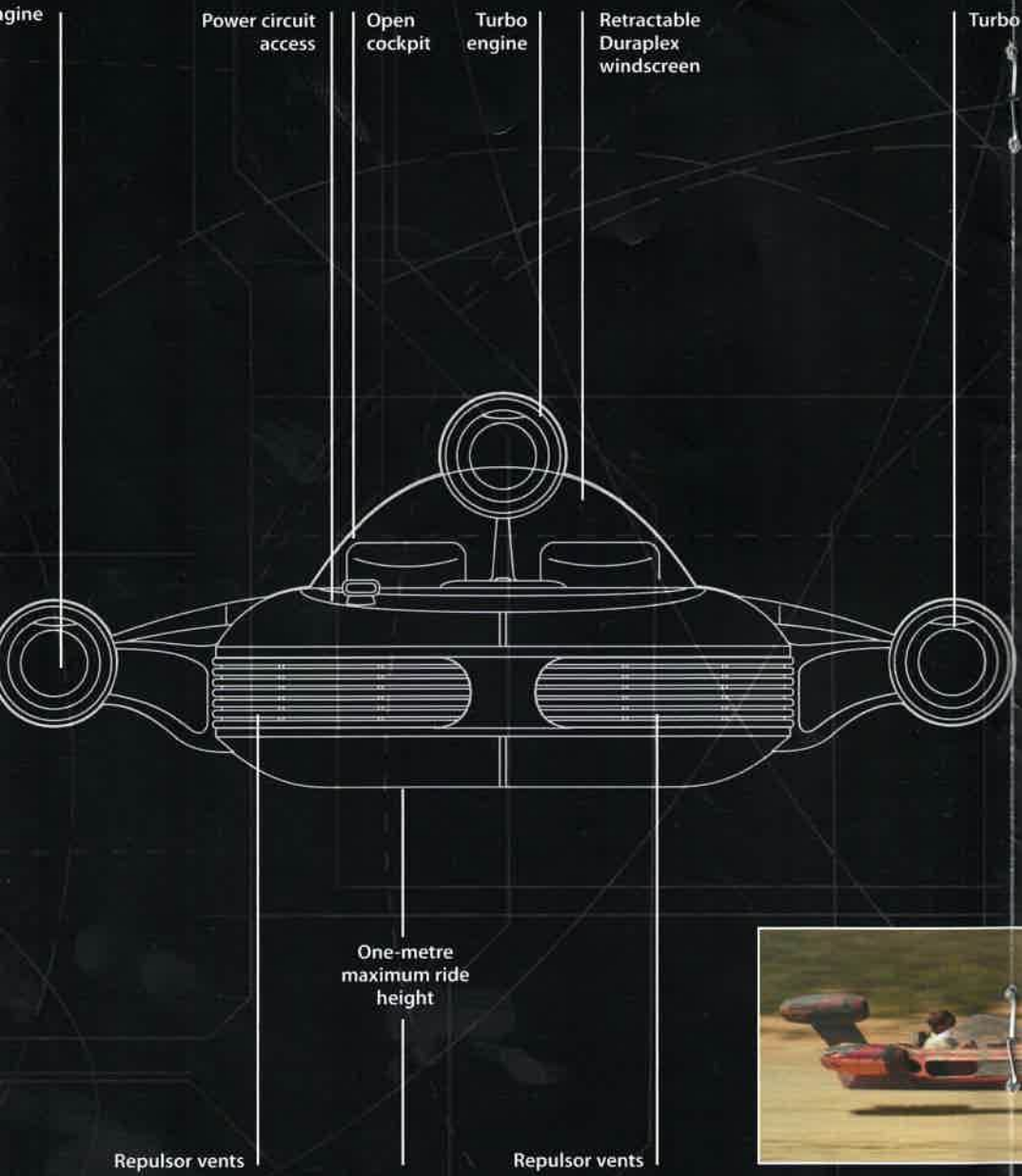
Manufacturer
SoroSuub Corporation

Length
3.4 metres

Maximum Speed
250 km/h

Occupants
1x driver, 1x passenger

Weapons
None


ngine
Power circuit access
Open cockpit
Turbo engine
Retractable Duraplex windscreen
Turbo
One-metre maximum ride height
Repulsor vents
Repulsor vents

bo engine

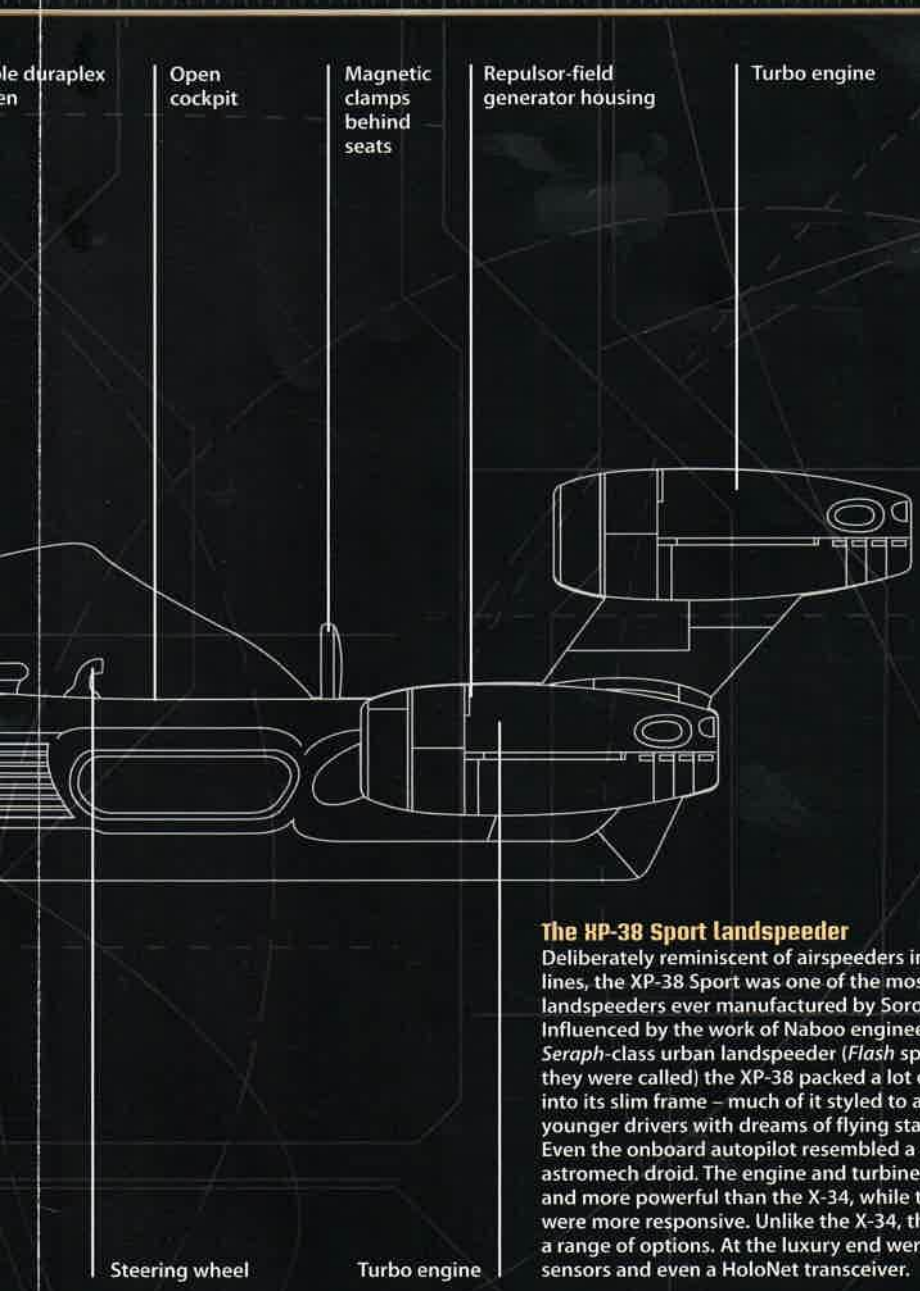
Despite the popularity of the XP-38 Sport landspeeder, it could not handle the rough terrain that an X-34 took in its stride. Although the XP-38 All-Terrain Roughrider was released to appeal to the 'frontiersman', X-34s were still being used in Mos Eisley nearly 150 years after Luke sold his there.

Power circuit access

Retractable windscreen

One-metre maximum ride height

Repulsor vents



The XP-38 Sport landspeeder

Deliberately reminiscent of airspeeders in its sleek lines, the XP-38 Sport was one of the most successful landspeeders ever manufactured by SoroSuub. Influenced by the work of Naboo engineers on the *Seraph*-class urban landspeeder (*Flash* speeders, as they were called) the XP-38 packed a lot of technology into its slim frame – much of it styled to appeal to younger drivers with dreams of flying starfighters. Even the onboard autopilot resembled a starfighters' astromech droid. The engine and turbines were better and more powerful than the X-34, while the controls were more responsive. Unlike the X-34, the XP-38 had a range of options. At the luxury end were advanced sensors and even a HoloNet transceiver.

MAX REBO

BAND ON THE RUN

Born Siiruulian Phantele, the Ortolan musician had a long and accomplished career that had more than its fair share of adventure mixed in. Though regularly exploited by employers and members of his own band, Max didn't seem to care so long as the food was good and regular.

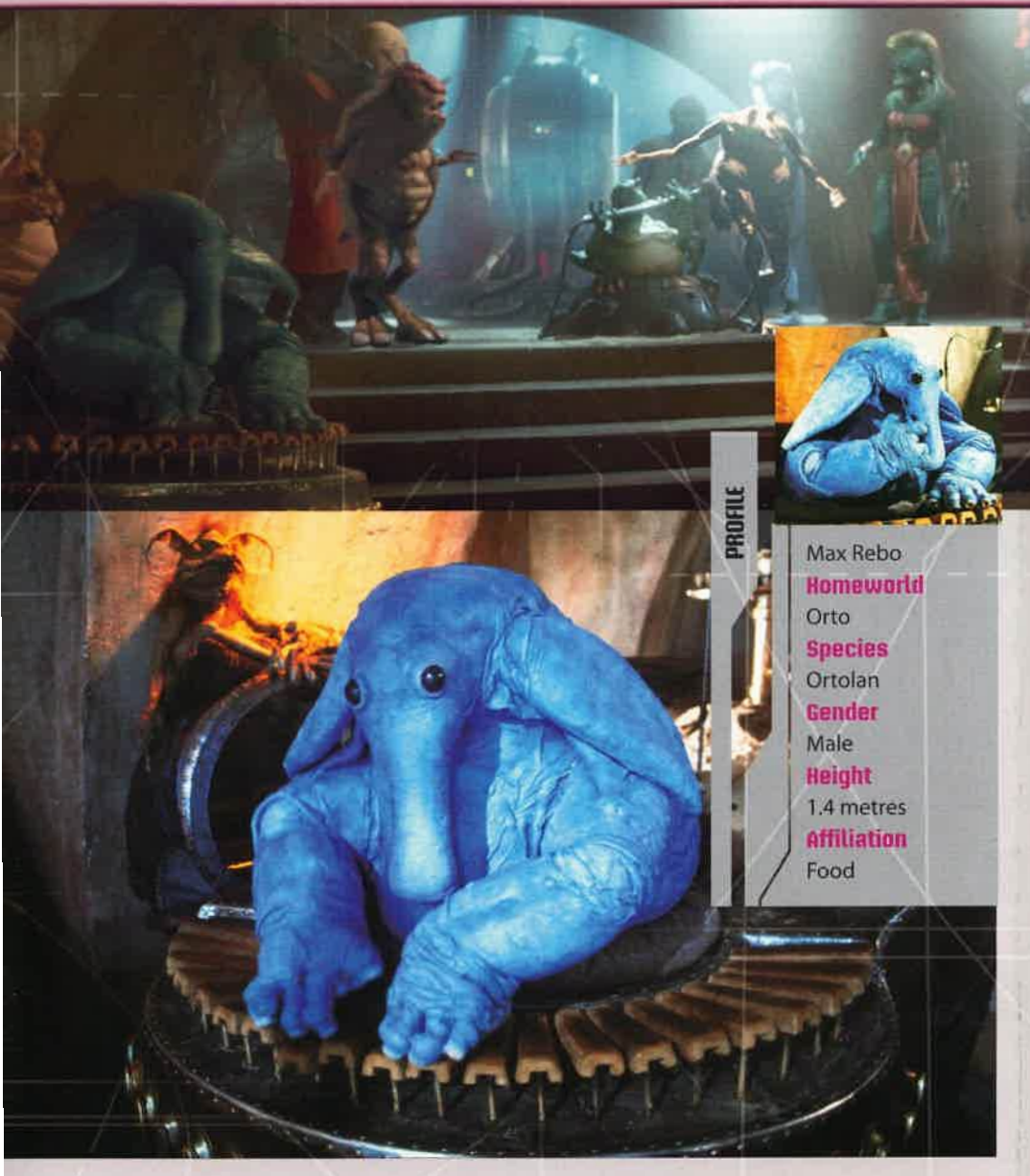
As a small child on Orto, Siiruulian was witness to the Trade Federation invasion of his world during the Clone Wars. The deprivations he experienced may well have accentuated his species' obsession with food, as the pursuit of gourmet victuals became the driving force in Siiruulian's life. Indeed, he was discovered by entrepreneur Evar Orbus playing for food at a flanth house. Recognising exploitable raw talent, Orbus had Phantele sign himself to Orbus's management on the promise of food and no other payment.

Deadly Meals

It was Orbus who had the Ortolan change his name to Max Rebo, and who formed the rest of the Max Rebo Band around the blue-skinned red ball organ player. The band consisted of Max, Sy Snootles the Pa'lowick singer, Droopy McCool the horn player and Orbus himself. By the time Evar Orbus took the band to Tatooine they'd picked up a second singer, a Yuzzum that Evar renamed Joh Yowza. The band came to the desert world to play Chalmun's Cantina in Mos Eisley, but a fight with the resident Bith band left Orbus dead and Max in control, with Snootles running the band behind the scenes. Unfortunately, she let Max negotiate a contract for the band to play Jabba's palace. The result was that Max signed all of them into near-slavery for unlimited food.

Explosive Finale?

Max worked happily at Jabba's palace as part of the now 12 member band. Max's naïve nature rendered him largely unaware of the horrors surrounding him. In the end, he and the rest of the band escaped their servitude when Jabba was killed by Leia Organa over the Great Pit of Carkoon. Fleeing the destruction of the Hutt's sail barge just before it exploded, Rebo and the others went their separate ways on reaching safety. The Max Rebo Band was no more.



PROFILE

Max Rebo
Homeworld
Orto
Species
Ortolan
Gender
Male
Height
1.4 metres
Affiliation
Food

Behind the scenes

On leaving Tatooine, a successful solo career followed for Max Rebo, including a number of successful galactic tours, before he unexpectedly joined the New Republic military to play for the troops – and to eat their excellent food. Eventually, the portly Ortolan retired to open a chain of restaurants on Coruscant called Max's Flanth House, from which he became comfortably wealthy and, of course, extremely well fed.

TATOOINE

THE JUNDLAND WASTES

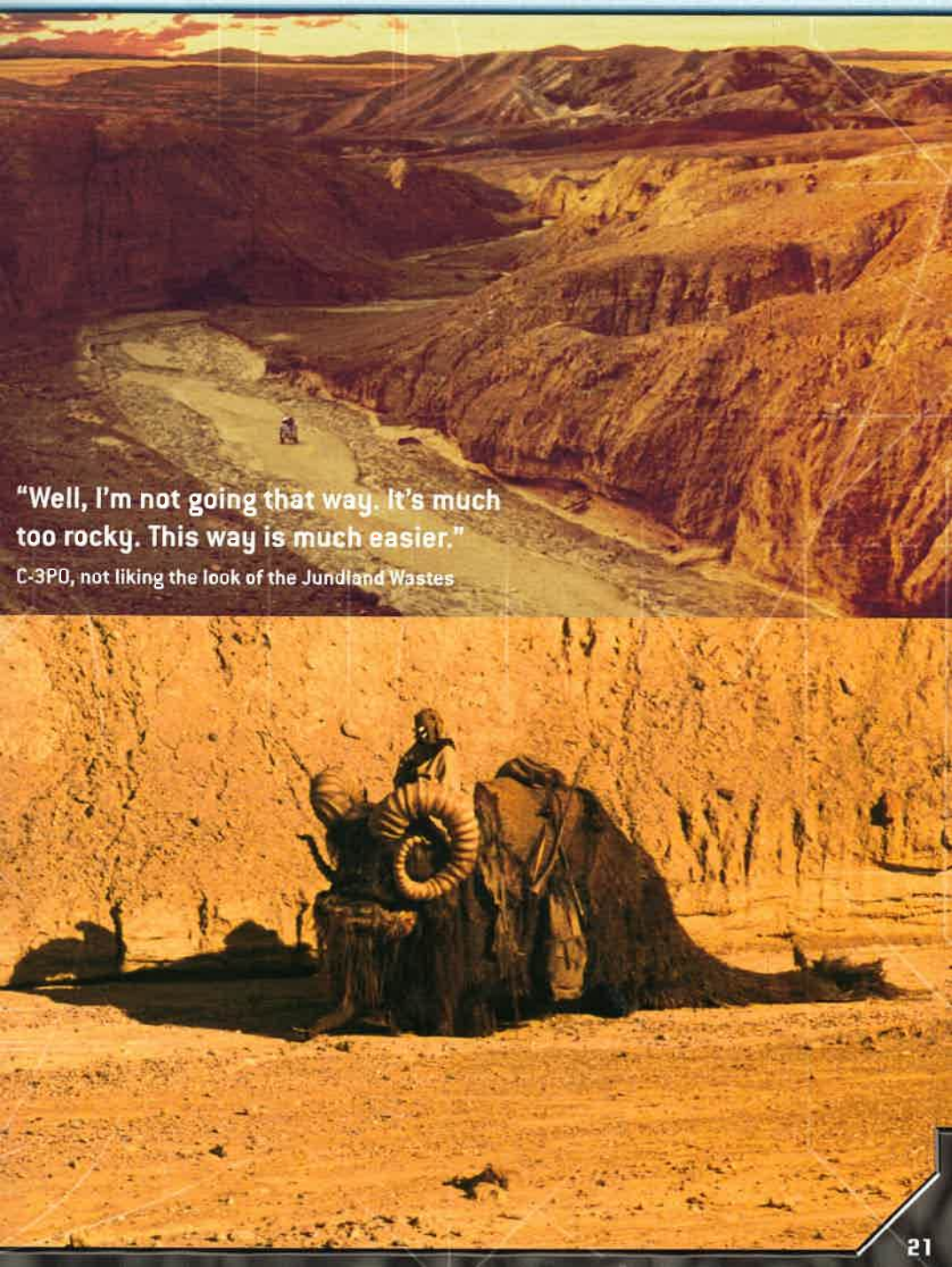
To the unwary traveller, Tatooine's rugged Jundland Wastes might have looked preferable to the baking deserts of the nearby Dune Sea. However, the sheer cliffs and rocky canyons could conceal far greater dangers than mere dehydration. On maps of the area, it could truthfully be marked that "Here be dragons".

In one of the dialects of the early settlers of Tatooine, 'Jundland' translates as 'No Man's Land'. As Obi-Wan reminded a battered Luke Skywalker, the wastes were not to be travelled lightly. Sandwiched between the Western Dune Sea and the Northern Dune Sea, at the western tip of the Great Mesra Plateau, the Jundland Wastes are the rocky, often mountainous expanse that surrounds the most populated areas of the inhospitable desert planet. They give shelter of sorts to much of the planet's fauna – a fact that in itself should have been a warning to stay away.

Animals and magnetism

The magnetic properties of the mineral deposits in the rocks, a leftover from the massive orbital bombardment of Tatooine many millennia before by the Rakatan Infinite Empire, confused sensors and other equipment, making navigation difficult. Travellers could quickly become lost in the twisting canyons and fall victim to creatures their useless scanners couldn't detect. Even R2-D2 failed to detect the Jawas hunting him after he and C-3PO crash-landed their escape pod after escaping the *Tantive IV*.

Scavenging Jawas were possibly the least dangerous encounter a traveller could have – the worst that Jawas would likely do to organics they encountered would be to sell them a duff droid. But Tusken Raiders haunted the Jundland Wastes, aggressively protecting their territory and the bantha herds that occasionally roamed there. Wandering the Wastes, it was too easy to step on a rock wart or disturb a feral womp rat nest, and quickly end up as a meagre carrion meal for a bonegnawer bird.



"Well, I'm not going that way. It's much too rocky. This way is much easier."

C-3PO, not liking the look of the Jundland Wastes

"We've got to get out of here before the Sand People return."

Luke Skywalker to C-3PO

Did you know...?

Krayt dragons ingested stones to help grind up food in their stomachs. Something unique in krayt metabolism, and perhaps in the rocks they chose, turned the stones into 'dragon pearls'. These were very valuable gems, giving hunters another reason to pursue the dangerous creatures.

No Myth

Before being 'rescued' by Jawas in the Dune Sea, C-3PO wandered past the exposed remains of a greater krayt dragon, one of the two main species of this mighty and elusive reptile that lived on the desert world. It is unknown whether the krayt dragon was a native of Tatooine, but the dragons feature strongly in the cultures of the Jawas and the Sand People, hinting that the creatures likely originated on the planet. The ten-legged greater krayt dragon was the rarer of the two species, and could grow to over 100 metres in length. The smaller canyon krayt was more common, though still rare, and grew to around 45 metres long. Both could live for around 100 standard years. Krayt dragons were much sought after by collectors of exotic and dangerous animals. To the Sand People, killing a krayt was a right of passage to adulthood, while Jawas brave enough to obtain a dragon bone were well respected in their society.

What are you doing so far out?

With all the dangers inherent in travelling the Jundland Wastes, it comes as a surprise that anyone would bother to venture into them. However, Obi-Wan Kenobi lived in solitude on the edge of the Hubba Heights, his peace guarded by the Waste's reputation. In his guise of old Ben the hermit, Kenobi traded with Jawas who, mostly sticking to their armoured sandcrawlers, went there looking for salvage – picking through the remains of crashed spacecraft, bandit camps, and the belongings of poor lost souls who never made it out of the canyon mazes. Those unfortunates could include rebels, krayt hunters, fugitives, speeder racers, and wannabe fighter pilots. The canyons, particularly the legendary Beggar's Canyon north of the Mospic High Range, were a popular proving ground for local skyhopper pilots, while the podraces included part of Beggar's Canyon in their courses. The Jundland Wastes could be a noisy as well as a dangerous place...

C-3PO & ANTHONY DANIELS

MADE TO SUFFER?

For six films, innumerable television appearances, radio dramas, theme park rides, animated series, and on and on, one man alone has embodied the golden droid C-3PO. Anthony Daniels views the experience with the wry humour that helped him survive.

"I was walking down a corridor in the TV Centre in Tokyo and some teenage girls, coming towards me, started screaming. They were like bobby-soxed cheerleaders – and rapidly losing control. I turned to see what they were so excited about. The corridor behind me was empty. Now that could have been really scary!" The famous anonymity bestowed by the shining full-body suit that turns Daniels into C-3PO was not always guaranteed, although it also resulted in attempts to eject a 'stranger' from exclusive backstage areas, as occurred at the Academy Awards one year.

Slow Beginnings

The Threepio connection has taken Daniels all around the world, but his involvement with *Star Wars* was almost scuppered from the start. Daniels' agent had to battle the actor's utter indifference to science-fiction in general, and low-budget sci-fi film making in particular, to get Daniels even to audition. Encouraged by the casting director, Irene Lamb, not to audition by pretending to be a robot, a nonplussed Anthony Daniels finally went to the audition. In his column in the UK's *Star Wars Magazine*, he summed up the meeting with George Lucas: "We shook hands without enthusiasm. Life would never be the same again."

Anthony's interest in the character was piqued when he was shown concept sketches and art by Ralph McQuarrie and, to his amazement, he was offered the role of a robot that looked quite unlike what he had expected. "It was 1975. My knowledge of robots was almost solely based on Dr Who." But C-3PO was no Dalek. There was a plaster

Some like it hoth

"When we shot *Star Wars* in 1976, it was the hottest summer in English history and studio shots that replicated desert sunlight with huge lamps were really bad. But when I thought my back was actually smouldering, Brian Lofthouse, my wonderfully kind and patient props-person/dresser/technician/friend/assistant, found that the battery pack for the eyes was shorting-out and cooking me."

bath bodycast session to endure ("...rather like being buried alive. I enjoyed having my head done, though.") and the finished costume, very tight on the already thin actor, pinched and chafed, greatly restricting his movements. Fortunately, Daniels' mime training served him extremely well. This left the issue of the droid's voice.

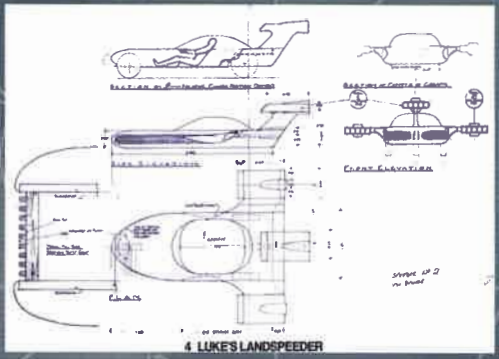
George Lucas had intended that Threepio sound like a disreputable used car salesman. After shooting was finished, he spent months trying to find an American actor for the role before no less than Mel Blanc (the voice behind numerous classic cartoon characters from Bugs Bunny to Barney Rubble) convinced him to keep Daniels' fussy butler-like tones. As a result, Daniels is the only actor to have been in all six *Star Wars* films, not to mention the *Clone Wars* animated series and beyond.

THE X-34 LANDSPEEDER

A TWO-STAGE CREATION

THE APPEARANCE OF FLYING

1 The full-sized mock-up of the landspeeder constructed for the first *Star Wars* movie and seen here in storage in the Lucasfilm archive, measured 4.02 x 2.17 x 1.14m



4 LUKE'S LANDSPEEDER

2 The landspeeder was built on the chassis of a Reliant Robin so it could be driven around – something ILM staff members did when the speeder was shipped there! Above: the landspeeder plans.

5 In a few close-ups, the speeder was lifted on a horizontal crane that gave it an appropriate bounce when Luke boarded it.

6 For long shots, a mirrored 'skirt' reflected the sand below the speeder. Above: filming the entrance to Mos Eisley, making sure not to show the wheels!

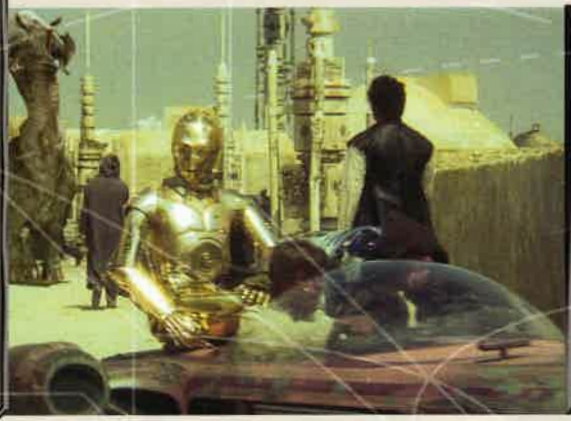
While mirrors, gelatine globs smeared on camera lenses, and shadows painted on during post-production helped Luke's landspeeder fly in the 1970s, Lucasfilms' Special Edition team used digital compositing and image manipulation to create an effect George Lucas was happy with.

3 A second, miniature version seen above measured 56 x 97 x 31cm. The occupants are mock-ups of the droids and off-the-shelf action figures including one of the Six Million Dollar Man.

4 Hiding the three wheels of the chassis was a challenge for the crew. The simplest method was to film the speeder at angles that left the wheels out of shot, or that hid them behind foreground objects.

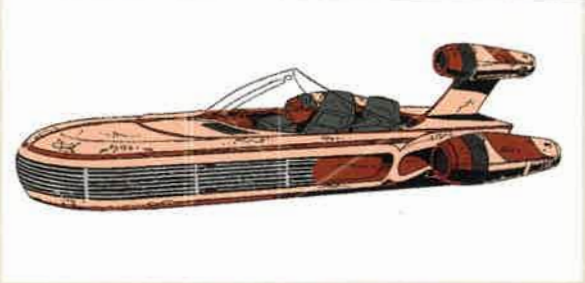
7 For the sequence where the Sand People ransacked the vehicle, rocks had to be carefully positioned to hide the wheels from shot.

8 George Lucas was never happy with the results, so he revisited the sequences for the Special Editions. Above: the landspeeder in the company archives.



1 Which model of landspeeder made it difficult for Luke to get a good price for his in Mos Eisley?

2 An X-34 landspeeder appears in Episode I: ***The Phantom Menace***. Why should it look so familiar to fans of Episode IV?



3 How was Max Rebo brought to life in Episode VI: ***Return of the Jedi***?

ANSWERS:

1. The Sorosuub XP-38 Sport landspeeder had been released, all but crippling the second-hand market for X-34s. Fortunately, Obi-Wan used the Force to convince Wioslea to give Luke a fair price.

2. The green X-34 seen in the background of Mos Espa scenes in Episode I is the original full-sized landspeeder from Episode IV repainted for the prequel.

3. Max was a puppet, the 21st of the many creatures created for *Return of the Jedi*, operated by two puppeteers – one for the head and one arm, and another for the remaining arm.

V

Vergere

Character
Expanded Universe

A female of the Fosh avian species, Vergere was possibly the most enigmatic of the Jedi during the latter years of the Old Republic. According to some sources, she may have been a failed apprentice of Darth Sidious, or simply a semi-rogue Jedi who secretly studied dark side lore. Dispatched to the living planet of Zonma Sekot, she was captured by an advanced force of Yuuzhan Vong. To protect the planet, she agreed to leave the galaxy with the Vong, and spent the next 50 years as their captive, teaching them about her galaxy even as she learned about them. When the Vong invaded the galaxy, at times Vergere helped both sides. Though instrumental in the final defeat of the Yuuzhan Vong at Ebaq 9 in an action that saw her own death, she had already by then ensured Jacen Solo would become Sith Lord Darth Caedus. Ultimately, the answer as to whether Vergere was a force for good or ill is locked away in the debate of the nature of the Force itself.

Virago

Starship
Expanded Universe

The *Virago* was the personal starship of the head of the Black Sun crime syndicate Prince Xizor, and was a modified prototype of the MandalMotors *StarViper*-class attack platform. Classed as a heavy assault starfighter, it was blisteringly fast, shockingly agile and, thanks to its advanced targeting computer and experimental laser sighting system, utterly deadly. It was destroyed a year before the fall of the Empire at Endor in the battle over Coruscant that also saw Xizor's death.

Vjun

Planet
Expanded Universe

A barren planet in the Outer Rim, Vjun was swept by acidic rainfall that long ago destroyed the majority of the plant life of the planet. Four millennia before the Battle of Yavin, the planet was corrupted by a Sith cult. Its dark side connection was strong enough for Darth Vader to site his personal fortress there. Here he stored Obi-Wan Kenobi's lightsaber, later recovered by his grandson Anakin.

Vosa, Komari

Character
Expanded Universe

Human female Komari Vosa began Jedi training in the normal way, being detected very young and brought to the Temple on Coruscant. She became Padawan to Master Dooku. Vosa's temper and feelings for Dooku saw her refused the rank of Jedi Knight. In a fury, she tried to prove her worth by going up against the Bando Gora cult on Baltizaar but was captured by the cult. Tortured to madness, she fell to the dark side and became leader of the Bando Gora. Komari used tainted death sticks to recruit new cultists across the galaxy, and became the bounty at the heart of Dooku's plan to recruit a prime clone for the armies created by the Kaminoans. When she was run to ground by Jango Fett, Dooku killed her and later gave her lightsabers to Asajj Ventress.

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